

HOW TOWSER IS MADE USEFUL

His Skin Becomes Gloves and Carcass Converted Into Fertilizer.

DOG-CATCHER HELPS INDUSTRY.

Transition of a "Bow-wow" from a Nuisance to a Blessing Via Dr. J. B. Wood's Gas Box-Carcass Population of Richmond

"Every dog has his day." Is the way an old saw runs. The torrid thirty-one periods into which August is divided are commonly known as "dog days," but it is a pretty lively and discreet canine that can lay claim to as much as twenty-four hours' lease on life nowadays, unless his owner is a miser. Charles Phillips, one of our two dog catchers, is a case in point. It is too hot to bother with statistics this warm weather, except to give one or two items bearing on the subject. "Fell tax" is only paid on 250 dogs in Richmond. Conservatively estimates place the number of the animals in the city at over 6,000, so that more dogs live without a right to, than pay taxes.

A VEXATIOUS QUESTION. The dog question is a vexatious one, and is never settled. One of the most effective measures ever adopted by the City Council, was passed many years ago when a fine of \$5, half to go to the informer, was imposed on all householders harboring dogs on which the tax was not paid.

For several days the crush at the office of the City Treasurer to pay dog taxes was so great that the office force couldn't handle the crowd and the time for the ordinance to go into effect had to be advanced. This has not been the case in Richmond, the past week, the activity of the dog-catchers only driving fifty-five owners to the Treasurer's office. The greater number of persons owning dogs on which taxes are unpaid have satisfied themselves with keeping the animals under cover, and many a "dog" has been tampered during the past month for taking Towser out on the street to play.

Notwithstanding the diligence of the owners, the dog-catchers, under the supervision of Policeman M. B. Sutton and B. T. Henderson have captured scores of canines. Some have been redeemed, but what becomes of those which have no claimants and as is frequently the case, no owner, is not generally known. The majority of persons think the dogs are sent to the crematory, but such is not the case.

BECOMING USEFUL. Many a cur which until recently ran around the streets of Richmond, barked at bicyclists, and stole meat from kitchen tables, is today ready to serve a useful and somewhat inglorious purpose. Unless in life he has been converted into useful material, just how it is done will be told as the result of my investigations, part of which were made with the right hand holding the mast and the left hand close grasp, while conversation was carried on in a very unorthodox manner.

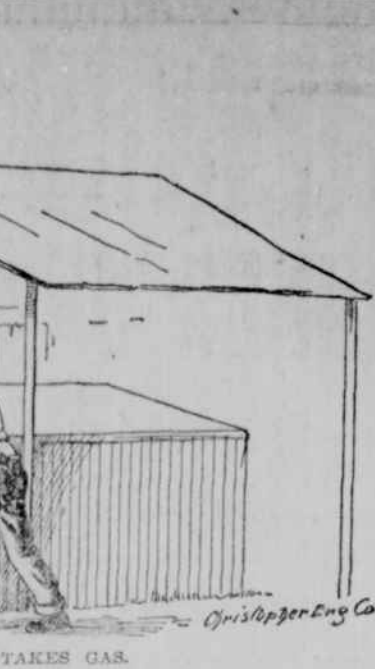
The dogs upon which sentence of death has been passed are not in a very cheerful frame of mind, and are aware that the jig is about up, when they are taken to the rear of the headquarters of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Here until yesterday, the sentence was executed.

DOGS ASPHYXIATED. Dr. Wood, the President of the Society, has there a big box, made of iron, and lined with galvanized iron. A pipe connected with the city gas mains is run into the box, while another pipe acts as vent when the execution is over. The dogs are placed in the box, the door is closed, and the gas turned on.

The first day or two a large number of dogs were placed in the box. For several minutes their moans and growls were heard, and then a sudden and great silence. After about four minutes the noises ceased. The box was allowed to remain closed for about ten minutes, when the vent was opened, and next the door was raised the dead dogs came out, and were taken to a wagon to be carried to the factory of J. B. Rickerstaff.

A HUMANE METHOD. Before following the dogs to the factory it should be mentioned that Dr. Wood said, when I called his attention to the apparent sufferings of the animals, that it was due to the overcrowding of the box. Not over fifteen should go in at once. He said he had witnessed experiments in New York when ninety-six dogs and cats were placed under a glass case and the gas turned on. There was a marked absence of evidence of pain and the only thing noticed was a rapid sinking into a stupefied condition. The crowd which gathered and other incidents connected with the humane slaughter, have proved so disagreeable to nearby residents that Dr. Wood discontinued killing the dogs Friday and turned the matter over to the city.

LYCANTHROPY OF DOGS. Mr. Rickerstaff loads them on a wagon and carries them to his factory, about two and one-half miles below Fulton, near the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad. Here they are dumped into a room and one of the employees skin the dogs "takes off their bark." In other words,



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IN U. S. COURTS.

Bankruptcy Matters Engage the Attention of Judge Waddill.

In the District Court yesterday Harry C. Smith, of Union Level, Va., qualified as referee in bankruptcy for district No. 10, composed of the counties of Brunswick, Lunenburg and Edinburg counties, vice W. H. C. Walker, resigned.

An order was entered in the matter of Mrs. Marion H. Richardson for an extension of five days, within which to take an appeal from the decision of the District Court in regard to her husband's exemption laws not applying to a woman who is not the support of the family.

The Circuit Court of Appeals has adjourned until early in October.

Judge Waddill left yesterday for Rock bridge Alum Springs.

MR. BOUDAR IS BACK.

Will Make Further Investigations Into the Danville City Government.

Mr. Boudar, the expert accountant who has been making an examination of the municipal accounts of Danville, and whose report found grave irregularities in several departments of that city's government, has returned to the city.

Mr. Boudar will leave again for Danville in a few days to make a further examination of the accounts and to start the city on a proper system of keeping its accounts. Danville, after the first report, immediately appropriated \$500 in order to secure the services of Mr. Boudar for a fuller investigation.

ECZEMA

The Only Known Cure is Proven so in Thousands of Cases where Physicians and All Remedial Agents Failed.

The letter from Mr. Wm. Morgan, a reputable and widely known citizen of 923 West Morgan Street, Denison, Texas, is a testimonial of gratitude. He says: "I know what I have suffered for thirty years, and I know there are so many suffering with Eczema, that I want my testimony published to the world. So intolerable had the disease become with me that at times I felt as though I would as soon be dead as alive. It afflicted me badly in the face, making it exceedingly red, but S. S. S. has driven this humiliating color entirely away and my natural complexion has returned. I have been badly afflicted for thirty years; had tried salves, ointments, washes and other external remedies and spent hundreds of dollars seeking a cure without being benefited until I used S. S. S., which permanently cured me in a short while."

Mr. W. P. Brush, Secretary of Missouri and Kansas Short-horn Breeders' Association of Kansas City, Mo., was afflicted with Eczema, the disease breaking out in patches on the inside of the hands, and he says in a letter concerning his case that at times he itched and burned, causing much discomfort, at times being more aggravated than at others. He concluded he had Eczema, and confirmed his opinion upon consulting physicians, and used several external applications, and in some instances, slight temporary relief was secured, but it was not until he used S. S. S. that he found himself completely cured, with no sign or symptom of a return of the disease.

Has cured thousands of cases of Eczema, which is a disease of the blood finding an exit through the pores of the skin in aggravatingly irritating form, causing a continual distressing and tantalizing itch, which is highly intensified during the hot summer months. The blood once tainted with Eczema, the disease is an everlasting one unless S. S. S. (Swift's Specific) is used to extirpate it. There are as many forms of the disease as there are causes for it. In the mildest form it is annoying and disfiguring, reddening and pimply the skin, often in the face; and in the malignant form, it is unendurable torture, in many cases wrecking the nervous system completely.

Whether you have Eczema in an incipient form, or a case deep-seated and of long standing, S. S. S. is an absolutely sure and positive cure. It is guaranteed to cure Eczema, Tetter, Scrofula, Cancer, Contagious Blood Poison and all forms of blood and skin diseases. Book on these diseases mailed free. Address SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., Atlanta, Ga.

HAVE THE ORGAN GRINDERS A TRUST

If Not, Why This Sudden and Organized Enmity to the Class?

MONKEYS SIT ON BAR COUNTERS

And Interfere with Gentlemen Who Are Taking a Drink - They Are Also Beggars - These Are the Only Specifications.

Rumors of an organ-grinders' trust were heard in mysterious whispers about town last week. There are several organ-grinders here now, but they seem to be local talent and only come out at intervals - on Saturday nights and festive occasions. The monkey, in his little, bright red cap, tugging at a chain in his efforts to reach a peanut or a copper, is not often seen on the streets of Richmond. The little old woman who sat under a lamp-post and ground a monotonous noise out of a box not bearing the remotest resemblance to music, is gone. No more is heard the strident, rasping notes of the so-called street piano.

WHERE DID THEY GO?

These sights - or, rather, noises - were at one time frequently seen on the streets of Richmond, and are still often met in other cities, and the question arises, What has become of them? Have they organized an Amalgamated Society of Organ-grinders and succeeded in securing outside artists to pass on to Petersburg and Norfolk? Or has an organization been formed outside the city and Richmond been boycotted?

Whatever has been the cause, Richmond seems to have become deaf to the persistent vendors of music and the festive monkey. That this is so makes it more difficult to understand a petition recently



A MEMBER OF A GRINDING COMBINATION.

drawn up and signed by about two dozen local Italians asking the Common Council to tax the organ-grinders heavily. The petition said:

"We, the undersigned citizens of Richmond, do most respectfully ask that your honorable body frame an ordinance as early as possible requiring a license for all persons who come into this city with a hand-organ and a monkey or an organ without the monkey for the purpose of

playing such organ on the streets of this city."

It is a license tax of \$15 per put upon the business of said people, we are of the opinion that the city will derive as much benefit therefrom as the recent tramp ordinance."

WILL MAKE A FIGHT.

The petition went to the Council and then to the Committee on Ordinances, which recommended its rejection. The patrons are not in the least disconcerted and say they will make a strong fight for the measure before the Council.

The fact that the petition asked that "all persons who come into the city" with hand organs be taxed, led some to believe the petition was in the interest of a local organ-grinders' trust, but the signers explain differently.

The first one found yesterday morning in the proprietor of a saloon on Broad street. He was asked what the petition meant or what was designed to accomplish.

His response was that he didn't know. It was brought to him, he said, by a friend and he just signed it as an accommodation, "just as we all do," he said. He wanted to help his friend along. Personally, he disavowed any feeling of hostility to the organ-grinders, feeling disposed to let them make a living. But the reason for getting the petition had been inquired into by him. He said I would have to see the man who brought it around.

BOTHER GENTLEMEN.

Another Broad street saloon keeper whose name was signed to the paper, said that he got it up in the interest of the citizens of Richmond. He felt that it was designed to let these people with organs run around the streets. They frequently go up into the saloons and the monkeys run up on the counter and sit there while a gentleman is taking a drink.

"What gentleman wants to have a monkey looking at him while he is taking a drink?" asked this worthy, and of course I agreed with him that any monkey who would do so was utterly lacking of refinement and training as to the etiquette of the occasion.

When asked if there was not a movement on hand to organize a local trust on the business, he denied it and no one interested would give any confirmation of the story.

But if it isn't true, where are the monkeys and the organ-grinders?

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